

## ABSTRACT

Seismic detection apparatus comprising seismic detection means  
5 capable of detecting a plurality of seismic components over a  
defined tetrahedral volume is provided. The seismic detection  
means comprises four three-component geophones. Seismic data  
acquired by the geophones is processed to separate P-wave  
components from S-wave components. The geophones are spaced apart  
10 by distances smaller than the wavelength of the detected seismic  
components. The apparatus may be used on surface or in a marine  
environment or transition zone. A method of processing seismic  
data is also provided comprising acquiring seismic data relating to  
a wavefield over a selected volume of acquisition, and measuring  
15 the curl and divergence of the wavefield from the seismic data, to  
thereby identify seismic components within the seismic data.  
Additionally, an apparatus and method for hydrocarbon exploration  
is disclosed for using three or more seismic receivers placed in a  
plane and spaced closely to each other.